

**Minutes of The Ware Society Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 25 May 2022 at 8pm. Held by Zoom.**

**Present** – 32 members including members of the committee.

**Welcome** from chairman, M. West.

**1 Apologies for absence** – Adrian and Sue Newman, Laurence Beales and Karin Asher.

**2 Minutes of the meeting of AGM held on 26 May 2021-** had been circulated. **Approved and signed, proposed by I. Walker, seconded B. West.**

**3 Matters arising** – None

**4 Annual Report** – this had been circulated. The chairman outlined the work achieved, especially regarding progress with Thames Water, The Town Awards, meetings by Zoom.

Sadly loss of members was reported, today news of the death of Jack Sanson aged 101y11m.

**Adoption of the report to year 2021-2022 proposed by Phyllis Ballam, seconded by Graham Owers**

**5 Treasurer's Report and Accounts** – presented by acting Treasurer supported by assistant Ann Owen.

The screen was shared and expenses explained. Donations were highlighted; the books balanced due to generous donations. The year ended with a deficit of £178. Gift Aid of £173.29 will come in to next year's accounts. Total balance is £15962.75.

Contra was queried by MC Black. This was a CPRE donation of £40.

**The accounts were adopted, proposed by MC Black, seconded by Chris Pick.**

M. West thanked Bob Owen for stepping in to manage the accounts.

**6 Election of Officers** – The following members have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election and have been nominated by the committee to serve until the conclusion of the next AGM.

Chairman	Mike West
Vice Chairman	Committee to act in absence of M. West
Treasurer	Ann Owen
Secretary	Bob Owen

Mrs Ann Owen has agreed to stand for the post of Treasurer, **proposed by Mr Dennis Day seconded by Mr R Owen.**

**Adoption of the above was proposed by MC Black, seconded by I. Walker.**

Amazing Kathy Sanders has kept us in good humour, chased people over issues and been a much valued committee member since 1998. The time comes now to step back but she says she is always ready to help.

Thank you very, very much Kathy.

**7 Election of Executive Committee** – The following committee members have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election and have been nominated to serve until the conclusion of the next AGM.

Mrs Catherine Perry, Mrs Jean Emmerton, Mr Ian, Ball, Mr Dennis Day,  
Ms Caroline Crook, Mrs Joy Cotterell.

**As named, the above were re-elected to serve until the conclusion of the next AGM, proposed by M. West, seconded C. Taylor.** Any more persons would be welcome during the year.

R.Owen acknowledged Cllr Ian Kemp for his tremendous help whilst on the committee this past year.

**MC Black expressed thanks from all to the committee for doing a wonderful job in difficult circumstances.**

**8 Any other business** – MC Black made reference to the steepness of the bridge over The Cut. A mobility scooter cannot access this part of the river.

M. West informed the meeting that 30-plus members often meet via Zoom, with more on catch up of meetings. We are working on technology to have both live and recorded meetings.

**9 Date of next meeting** – 31 May 2023

**The meeting stopped at 8.19pm.**

Visits were advised upon by M. West. The meeting on 28 September, ‘An Ideal English House, Panshanger Archives’ by Dr Kate Thompson will be at the Priory.

**Recording stopped at 8.21pm.**

### **Devastation on England’s East Coast.**

Richard Tanner, a resident of Ware for many years, enlightened us on this 1953 tragedy, when 1932 people died along the east and north coast and Netherlands. Very detailed, factual and most informative he steered us through developments of barriers, floodgates, preparation and forecasting of future flooding defences.

**The meeting closed at 9.03pm.**